

MD 94-19

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

December 24, 1993

PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU
STATION

JAN 3 1994

Secretary of the FCCI
c/o Office of Managing Director, FCC
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

JAN 3 1994

FCC MAIL ROOM

Re. the proposed increase in VHF radio user fees

We own a 20' fishing boat with no eating, sleeping or bathroom facilities. Because of the size of Lakes Mead and Mohave and the speed which unexpected inclement weather can develop, which can be very dangerous to small boaters, a VHF radio may be a "lifesaver." I consider our VHF radio just as important for the safety of my family and friends as required items such as fire extinguishers, flotation devices, etc. Accidents can and do occur though, and direct communication with other boaters and emergency/rescue personnel is vital to minimize damage and loss of life.

I urge the FCC not to raise the fee for a Ship Radio Station license. The last increase from \$5 to \$35 was a "hard pill to swallow" for all small boat owners, and to double it to \$70 is unconscionable. Most Americans have no problems with increased fees which become necessary to cover normal increases in costs to maintain useful programs, but I find it hard to believe that it costs the FCC \$70 to process an application for a ship station license.

Respectfully,

Mel

Melvin E. Hengen
1596 Carnoustie Ct
Boulder City, NV 89005-3652

(702) 294-4278

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

Aug

MD 94-19
PRIVATE RADIO BU... DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
SPECIAL SER...

Jan 3
Maine H. Tonkin
10936 NE 49th Street
Kirkland WA 98033-7702

RECEIVED

JAN 13 1994

FCC MAIL ROOM

December 28, 1993

Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

re: Proposed Fee Increase for Marine Radio Licenses

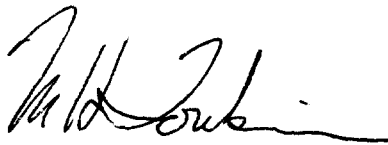
Dear Secretary, FCC:

Increasing the fee to \$70 for five year license, or \$105 for a ten year license will only result in decreased use of marine radios by the general pleasure boaters. We will find other ways to communicate with each other, such as cellular telephones. When this happens, less boaters will be monitoring Ch 16, which will result in reduced safety on the waters. Its nearby boaters that reach the boat in trouble long before the Coast Guard responds.

More and more boaters in the Puget Sound area now carry their cellular telephones with them, which are more reliable and less distracting than VHF radios. Most of us that sports fish also carry CB.

There is a threshold to which the public will tolerate higher taxes - as witnessed by the U. S Recreational Vessel Fee Program that is being eliminated because it was ineffective. Doubling or tripling the marine radio license fee will be one of those that will have a similar negative effect.

Sincerely,



No. of Copies rec'd Aug.
List ABCDE

PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU
SPECIAL SERVICES

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MD 94-19

JAN 3 4 29 PM '94

ARNETT & BERG MARINE SURVEYORS, INC.
P O BOX 70424
SEATTLE, WA 98107-0424
206-283-8884

RECEIVED

JAN '3 1994

FCC MAIL ROOM

December 29, 1993

Secretary, FCC
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

Subject:: Proposed FCC Regulatory Fees

The recreational boater seems to be the target for fees and taxes from all levels of government. As marine surveyors we find many customers who do not have proper FCC licenses and furnish the proper forms (506 & 753) as a customer service.

The proposed increase to \$105.00 would not be in the public interest. Recreational boaters should be encouraged to license their VHF and other required equipment by reasonable fees, especially when the equipment is not required. It would be better to have higher fees on commercial vessels and other vessels that are mandated to carry such transmitting devices. Many recreational boaters now carry cellular phones instead of a VHF radio. While this is good in some respects, its overall effect is to reduce the level of safety in emergency situations.

Barrie Arnett
D. J. Berg

Barrie Arnett, President
David J. Berg, Vice President

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

Aug

YACHT HAVEN MD94-19
BROKERAGE — CAFE — MARINA
Wilmington, Berth 202
CA 90744
(213) 834-6892
FAX (213) 834-9219

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

JAN 3 1994

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Re: NEW USER FEES

Is THE FCC/US GOV'T.

Really STUPID OR WHAT!

How CAN you justify CHARGING
BOATERS \$70/5yrs To Legally use
THEIR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.

I don't have to have a RADIO
on my boat, I have for MY SAFETY
AND THE SAFETY OF OTHER MARINERS.

YOU GOVERNMENT FOOLS ARE TRYING TO
KILL THE GOLDEN GOOSE

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

One
Jene McPherson

New FCC Fee

Here we go again! In a report published in early November, BOAT/U.S. told its members about a brand new "user fee" being foisted on boaters. Here's what they had to say:

"The Federal Communications is planning in mid-November to propose new 'user fees' on holders of VHF marine radio licenses of \$7 per year, or an extra \$35 for a five-year license [the standard license period].

This new fee would be in addition to the existing \$35 license fee now required.

"BOAT/U.S. believes doubling the cost of a marine VHF license will have a negative impact on boating safety. [Boaters] are urged to send comments to: Secretary of the FCC, c/o Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, 1919 M St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554."

We called the FCC to ask some questions. They had no comment.

RECEIVED

JAN 3 1994

DC - MAIL ROOM